

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY TREASURY:SHAYES.NEA/ARP:CCECIL:SKG

APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USSAEC

SUBJECT: VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROJECT AGREEMENT

REF: (A) JIDDA 6041, (B) TREASURY MSG 076, SEPT 75

1. THE TEXT OF A PROPOSED VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROJECT AGREEMENT IS BEING SENT TO USREP/JECOR AND EMBASSY BY TELEX (REF B). IT FOLLOWS IN SUBSTANCE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING DEVELOPED BY USDL AND MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND FAVORABLY COMMENTED ON BY EMBASSY IN REF A.

2. IF EMBASSY HAS ANY COMMENTS OF A POLITICAL NATURE OR INVOLVING THE BROAD POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF THIS PROJECT, IT IS REQUESTED THAT SUCH COMMENTS BE FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON AND USREP/JECOR NOT LATER THAN 14 SEPTEMBER TO ENABLE DEPT TO INFORM INTERAGENCY ACTION GROUP OF STATE CLEARANCE.

3. TREASURY AGREES THAT PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURING HOUSING FOR PROJECT TECHNICIANS RESTS WITH USREP/JECOR. PURPOSE OF INCLUSION OF REFERENCE TO MINISTRY'S RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS AREA IS TO LEAVE OPTION OPEN TO USREP DIRECTOR TO APPROACH MINISTRY IF IT APPEARS THAT DIFFICULTIES IN
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SECURING HOUSING MAKE SUCH AN APPROAC; ADVISABLE. WORDS QUOTE WHEN REQUESTED UNQUOTE HAVE BEEN INSERTED IN ARTICLE 11 TO INSURE THAT INITIATIVE RESTS WITH USREP/JECOR. IF SAG STRONGLY OBJECTS TO LANGUAGE ON MINISTRY OF LABOR RE-

SPONSIBILITIES TO PROVIDE HOUSING, WE WOULD NOT INSIST ON ITS INCLUSION. SIMILARLY, TREASURY AGREES THAT LABOR TEAM WILL NOT REPEAT NOT PROVIDE OWN ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL AND WILL RELY ON USREP/JECOR FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TRANSPORTATION, THE PROVISION OF WHICH REMAINS TO BE RESOLVED.

4. IT IS DEPARTMENT'S FEELING THAT FAILURE TO HAVE SOME PROVISION IN EACH PROJECT AGREEMENT FOR AMERICAN SECRETARY (WHO COULD BE HIRED LOCALLY) WOULD PLACE TEAM AT MERCY OF MINISTRY-PROVIDED SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE WHICH IS LIKELY TO BE OF INFERIOR QUALITY IN ADDITION TO FACT THAT ABSENCE OF ANY SECRETARY UNDER PROJECT DIRECTOR'S SUPERVISION IS, IN DEPARTMENT'S VIEW, UNDESIRABLE. DEPARTMENT FEELS THIS ISSUE MIGHT BEST BE HANDLED BY INCLUDING SECRETARY AS TEAM MEMBER IN EACH FUTURE PROJECT AGREEMENT AND WOULD, IF POSSIBLE, PREFER TO AMEND ATTACHMENT TWO OF REF B BY ADDING ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: QUOTE P. ONE CLERICAL/SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT TO PROJECT TEAM LEADER. UNQUOTE BUT IN VIEW OF MUHAMMAD ALI FAYEZ'S ASSURANCES TO USDL TEAM THAT ADEQUATE SECRETARIAL SUPPORT WILL BE PROVIDED, WE WOULD NOT INSIST THAT AMERICAN SECRETARY BE ACTUALLY HIRED AT PRESENT TIME AND WOULD REASSURE FAYEZ THAT THIS POINT WAS INCLUDED IN AGREEMENT ONLY BECAUSE IT IS COMMON FEATURE WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IN ALL AGREEMENTS. DEPARTMENT REALIZES, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS USREP/JECOR DIRECTOR WHO WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM IF SAG MINISTRIES FAIL PROVIDE PROMISED SUPPORT AND THEREFORE LEAVES TO DIRECTOR'S DISCRETION TO DECIDE WHETHER TO INCLUDE THIS PRECAUTION IN ALL AGREEMENTS AT OUTSET OR TO ATTEMPT TO MAKE SOME OTHER PROVISION FOR MATERIAL ASSISTANCE AT A LATER DATE IF CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATE. KISSINGER

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